Act, 1969, permission of the MRTP Commission is not required for issue of advertisement. However, the Commission has the power to enquire into any unfair trade practices. In the present case, the Commission has taken cognizance of the advertisement in question and has considered it to be attracting Section 36A(3)(b) of the MRTP Act, 1969. Accordingly, the Commission in accordance with Regulation 19(2)(c) of the MRTP Commission Regulations, 1974, has ordered investigation on 24.4.1990 into the matter by the Director General (Investigation & Registration). The MRTP Commission being a quasi-judicial body is empowered to take necessary action in the matter under provisions of the MRTP Act.

Power Projects of Andhra Pradesh pending Central Clearance

*94. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many power project schemes of Andhra Pradesh are pending central clearance; and

(b) whether the Central Government propose to clear these projects expeditiously in view of power situation in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House [*See* appendix CLIX, Annexure as 10]

Legislation to Curb smoking

*95. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for enacting a law to curb smoking;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the proposal; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

The main features of the proposed legislation are as follows:—

1. The existing statutory warning on cigarette packets/advertisements/hoarding that 'Cigarette smoking is injurious to health' will be expanded to include one or the other telling slogans mentioned below:—

'Smoking can lead to Oral Cancer'

'Smoking can cause heart problems'

'Smoking may reduce your life span'

'Smoking can aggravate respiratory problems'

2. Statutory warning will be prominently displayed on the cigarette packets.

3. Prohibition of advertisements of cigarettes.

4. Existing rules/regulations to be extended to areas such as Government offices, hospitals and health care establishments, educational institutions, official conferences/meetings, railway stations and airports.

5. Projection of slides depicting harmful effects of cigarette smoking before every show in cinema halls and also on T.V.

6. Ban on smoking in hospitals and health institutions, aircrafts,

trains, buses, schools and universities.

7. Control of smoking in work places.

The proposed legislation is under examination in consultation with the Ministry of Law and other concerned authorities.

Limits for setting up of larger units registered with DG.T.D.

*96. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that units which are registered with the D.G.T.D. as larger units, cannot be set up within a radius of 50 km. of Matropolitan cities;

(b) if so, whether there are any exceptions to this rule; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) D.G.T.D. registration can be granted if an industrial undertaking is proposed to be set up outside the distance limits specified below:

Category—I 50 Kms. of cities with population above 25 lakhs.

Category—II 30 Kms. of cities with population between 15 and 25 lakhs.

Category—III 15 Kms. of cities with population between 7.5 and 15 lakhs.

Category—IV standard urban area or municipal limits of other cities and towns.

Relaxation from locational policy is available if:

(i) investment is less than Rs. 5 crores;

(ii) the industry is non-polluting; and

(iii) the undertaking is being set up in an industrial area developed prior to 30 June, 1988 by State Governments or their agencies or the undertaking is graduating from the small scale to the medium scale or not less than 2/3 of the work force employed by the undertaking consists of women or handicapped persons.

Proposals involving locational relaxation, not covered above, are considered by the appropriate Approval Committee and decided on merits.

Leprosy Prone Districts

*97. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many districts in the country have a leprosy prevalence rate of over 5 per thousand; and

(b) how many of these districts have Multi Drug Therapy (MDT) facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) 196 as on 31st March, 1985.

(b) 130.

Action Plan for State Governments to Liquidate their overdues towards NTPC and NHPC

*98. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have been advised for an "action plan" to liquidate their overdues towards NTPC and NHPC;